Today's News - September 15, 2005

New Orleans: Architects and preservationists weigh in, and answers may be found in peacocks and butterflies. — Architectural plagiarism: is it always a bad thing? — Architecture critic in hot water for real estate holdings in all the right neighborhoods. — "30 is the new 40" in a survey of Sydney's up-and-coming design talent. — Canada Council for the Arts hands out Professional Prix de Rome in Architecture to NYC-based, native-born young talent. — Gehry tones down Hove: is it still "Victorian women in flowing dresses promenading along the seafront," or "transvestites caught in a gale" (and just where does Brad Pitt fit into all this?). — A new university auditorium may have a chip of a nickname, but is not a chip off the old block. — A modern California county office fits the old neighborhood, despite what its critics say. — What to do with 40-foot-high vents at Ground Zero. — A roster of starchitects team up for a \$5 billion in Las Vegas. — Courtyard apartment complexes are coming back into vogue (if only they were affordable). — Preserving historic landscapes. — The landscape designer who shaped shopping malls and Disneyland. — ASLA honors for 16 student projects.

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Architects Weigh In On Rebuilding New Orleans- Architectural Record

Historic New Orleans Architecture Faces Threat of Being Lost to Floods: Preservationists Scramble To Stave Off Wrecking Ball After Damage by Katrina. By Alex Frangos-Wall Street Journal

For the Gulf Coast, a Rehabilitation Effort: The National Trust for Historic Preservation plans to announce an initiative today to send damage assessment teams to the Gulf Coast region to survey neighborhoods and report on what can be saved- New York Times

Nature may offer vital clues on rebuilding New Orleans: Forests and butterflies hold key to better design, says author Janine Benyus-San Francisco Chronicle

When Architects Plagiarize: It's not always bad..How important should artistic authorship be in the world of architecture?....instead of architectural conversations, we increasingly have self-absorbed mumblings or soapbox oratory. And lawsuits. By Witold Rybczynski-Slate

My Architecture: Sun architecture critic Edward Gunts has made significant real-estate investments in two Baltimore neighborhoods he regularly covers: ...ethics code instructs newsroom staff to..."void activity that could create the appearance of a conflict of interest."- Baltimore City Paper

Arch angels: ...one could say 30 is the new 40...survey of emerging architects reveals a promising future for our city to come. -- Seidler; Murcutt; David Boyle Architect; Nobbs Radford Architects; Anna Vaughan Architects; Fergus Scott Architects; Eva-Marie Prineas/Carter Williamson; Adam Haddow/SJB; Phillip Rossington/Alexander Tzannes Associates- Sydney Morning Herald

Innovative young architect wins the Professional Prix de Rome in Architecture: Canada Council for the Arts has awarded...Eric Bunge of nARCHITECTS- Canadian Architect

Guggenheim architect tones down Hove blueprint: Gehry still claims they are a reference to "Victorian women in flowing dresses promenading along the seafront". Critics described the initial proposal as "transvestites caught in a gale." -- Piers Gough; Brad Pitt (maybe)- Guardian (UK)

Chipping away at convention 'Pringle' auditorium provides human scale to new University of Michigan building -- Polshek Partnership- Ann Arbor News

Plans for new D.A.'s office in Martinez offer a smart step forward: But foes of modern architecture in Martinez and elsewhere forget one crucial fact: Architecture isn't a game of dress-up. By John King — Kava Massih Architects- San Francisco Chronicle

Venting Ideas, Then Hiding Them, Turns Out to Be a Tall Order: The underground complex planned at the World Trade Center site will require enormous vents, which, for security reasons, must be 40 feet high. — Michael Arad/Handel Architects; Peter Walker & Partners; Davis Brody Bond- New York Times

Making the Desert Bloom With Architecture: MGM Mirage has enlisted a celebrity roster to design various parts of a \$5 billion, 66-acre [CityCenter] development in the heart of Las Vegas. -- Rafael Viñoly; Norman Foster; James KM Cheng; Cesar Pelli; Kohn Pedersen Fox Associates; Ehrenkrantz, Eckstut & Kuhn Architects [image]- New York Times

Courts with a new spark: The courtyard apartment is an idea whose time has come back. Amid today's high-rise building trend, the need for such urban oases — infused with a communal spirit — is greater than ever. By Christopher Hawthorne — Irving Gill (1914); Neutra; Moule & Polyzoides- Los Angeles Times

You Can Sit on Your Parks, or Save Them: Seeing intelligent design in public spaces, Charles Birnbaum is leading the fight to preserve historic landscapes. -- Cultural Landscape Foundation; Dan Kiley; Marion Coffin; Bryant Fleming; Olmsted Brothers; Peter Walker; Laurie Olin; Lawrence Halprin; etc.- New York Times

Walking in her footpaths: Landscape designer Ruth Shellhorn helped shape two essential symbols of the state -- the shopping mall and Disneyland.- Los Angeles Times

ASLA 2005 Student Awards: 16 projects representing 13 schools to receive awards. [images]- American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA)

Op-Ed: Modern Ironies: Notes on Losing the Bunshaft's Travertine House (1963). By Kenneth Caldwell [images]- ArchNewsNow

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